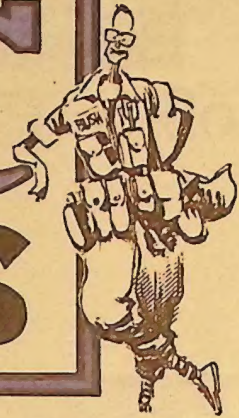


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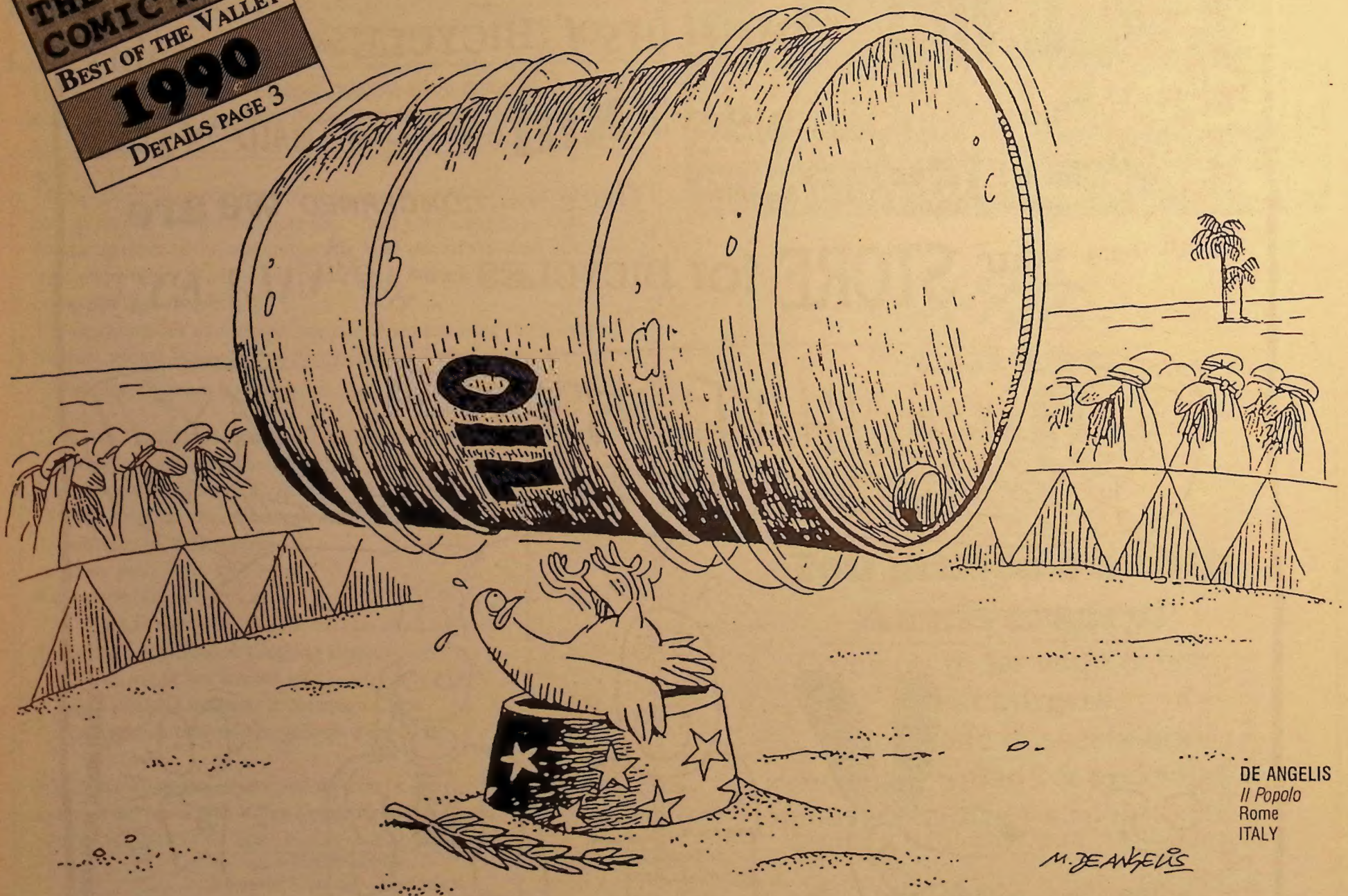
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**THE VALLEY
COMIC NEWS
BEST OF THE VALLEY
1990
DETAILS PAGE 3**



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ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

BICYCLE WORLD

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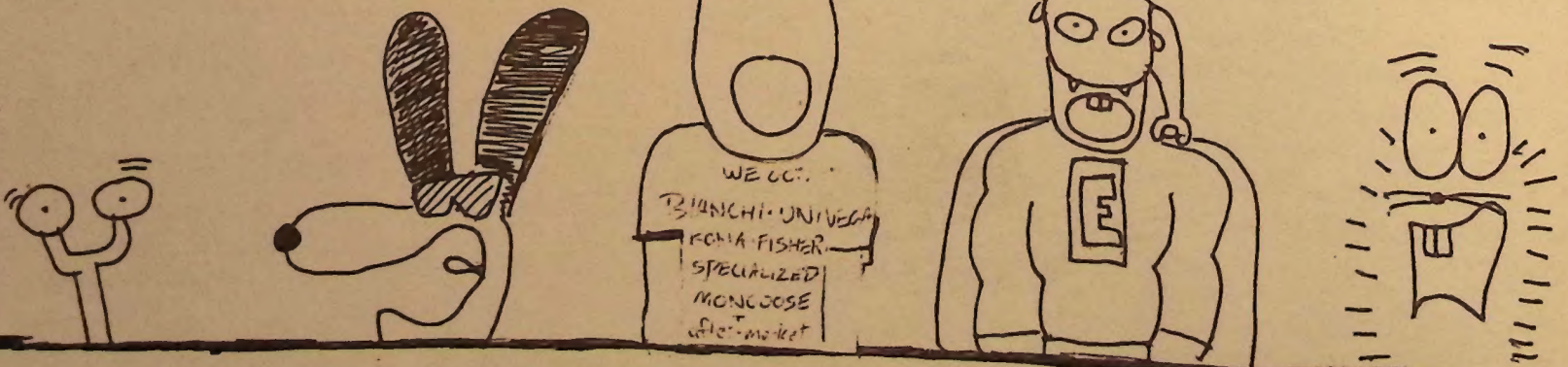
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EDITOR'S NOTES

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Yes, believe it or not The Valley Comic News is one year old! It's sort of hard to believe, but time flies when your laughing. The encouragement of the community has been one of the most motivating factors in my patience and persistence. I thank all my readers for being just that - readers.

To celebrate this momentous occasion I am releasing the results of the first annual Valley Comic News BEST OF THE VALLEY.

The winning businesses & their slogans:

	Number of Votes Ads Bought
1. Mona's Healthfood Restaurant & Organic Hair Salon "Waiter, is that a hair in my soup?"	406
2. Antonio's Antiques & Pizza "How long has that slice been sitting there?"	398
3. Bob's Books & Body Shop "If we can't fix it, look it up."	354
4. Absentee Legal Services "I'm not in right now, but I'll bill you anyway."	302
5. Karens Copy Shop & Clothing Boutique "If it doesn't fit, we'll make it fit."	273
6. Light Weight Computer & Nutrition Clinic "Eat right on only 640 megabytes a day."	251

Mr. & Ms. business person, you too can be Best of the Valley! Just ask your ad rep at The Valley Comic News for details.

(VOTING COMMITTEE: Editor, Publisher and Ad reps)

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Editor and Publisher • David Hooks

Teacher trouble shooter and all around guru • Thom Zajac

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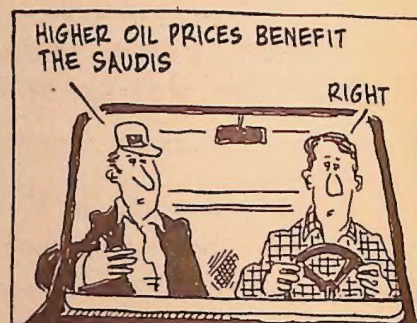
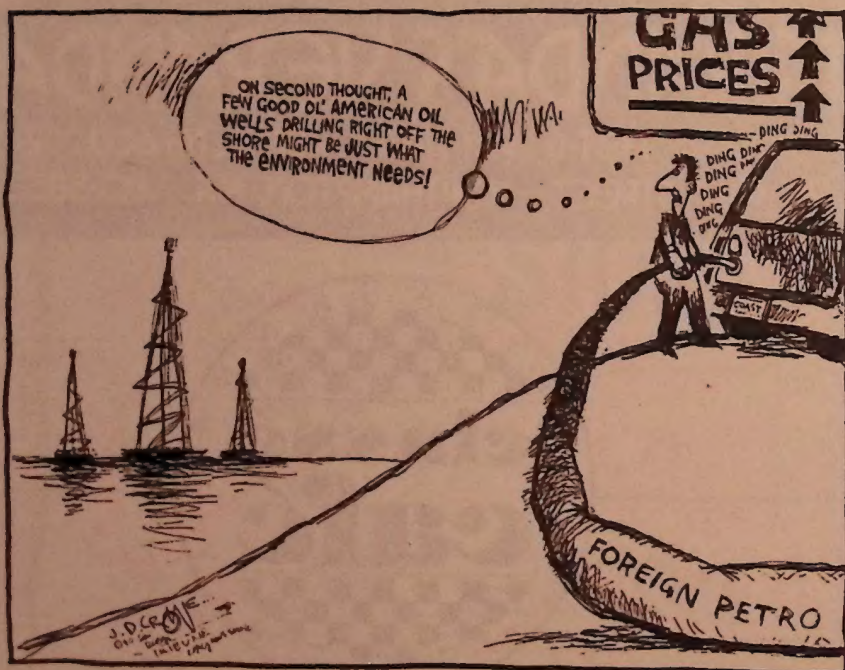
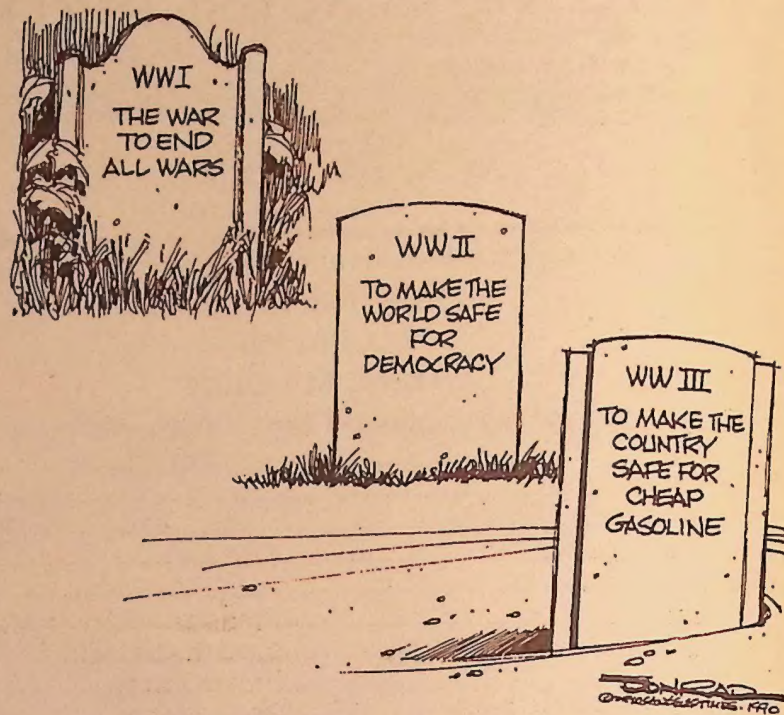
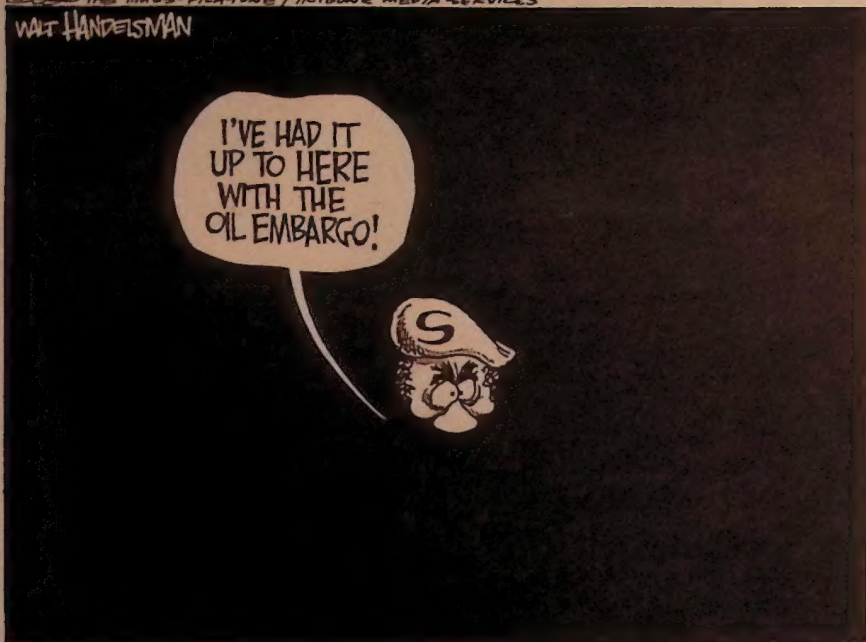
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-Many Hands

Much thanks goes to the cartoonists, and this crazy
world for providing such fertile subject matter.

And last but definitely not least, my family, without
whom I would have no sense of humor at all.

(Apologies to anyone I missed.)

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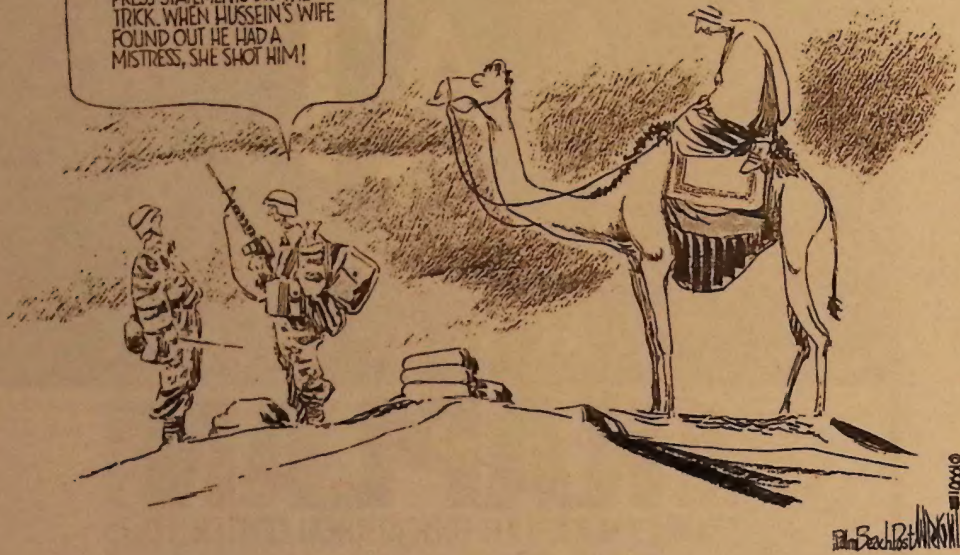
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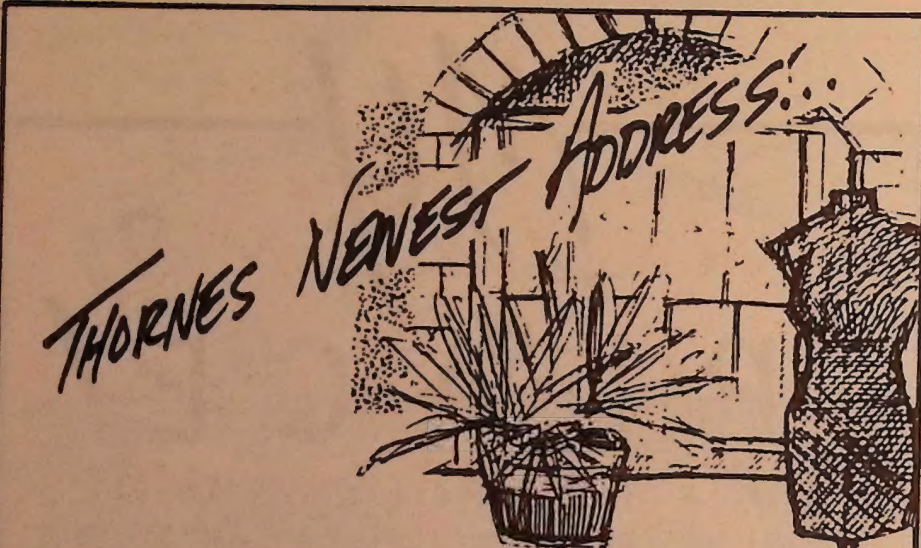
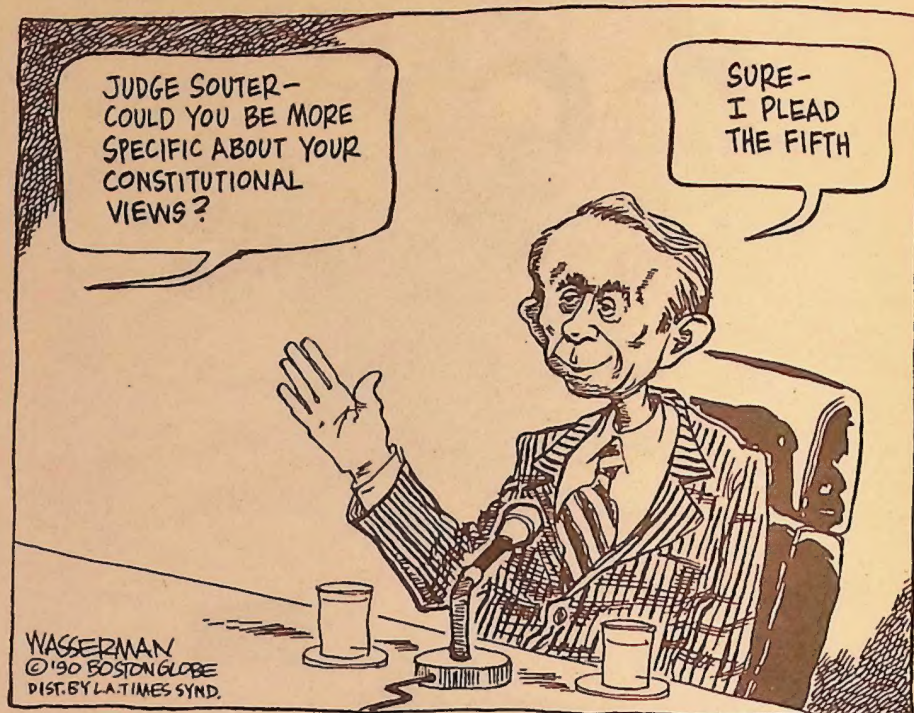
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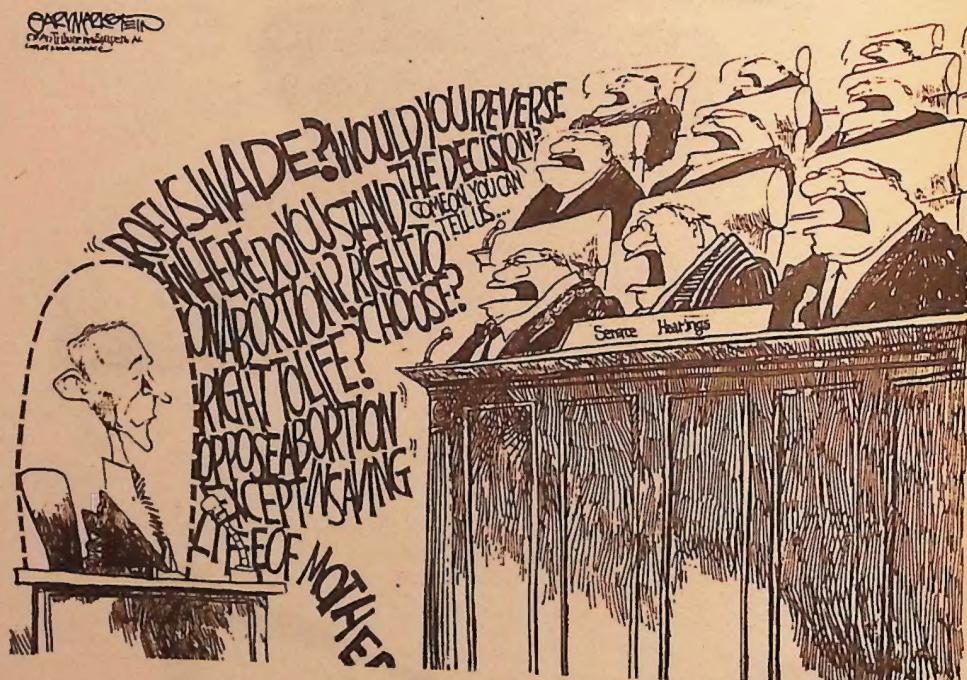
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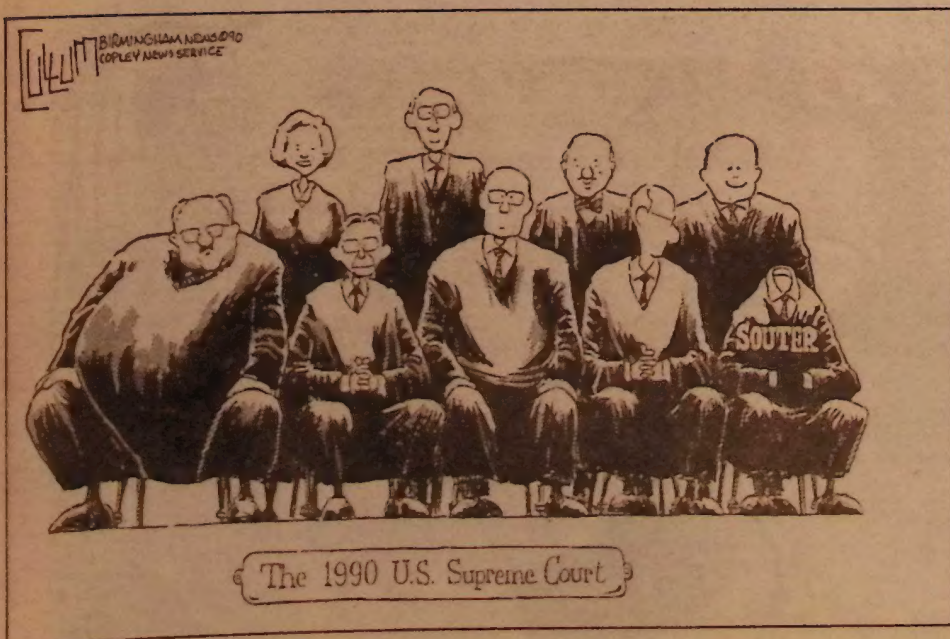
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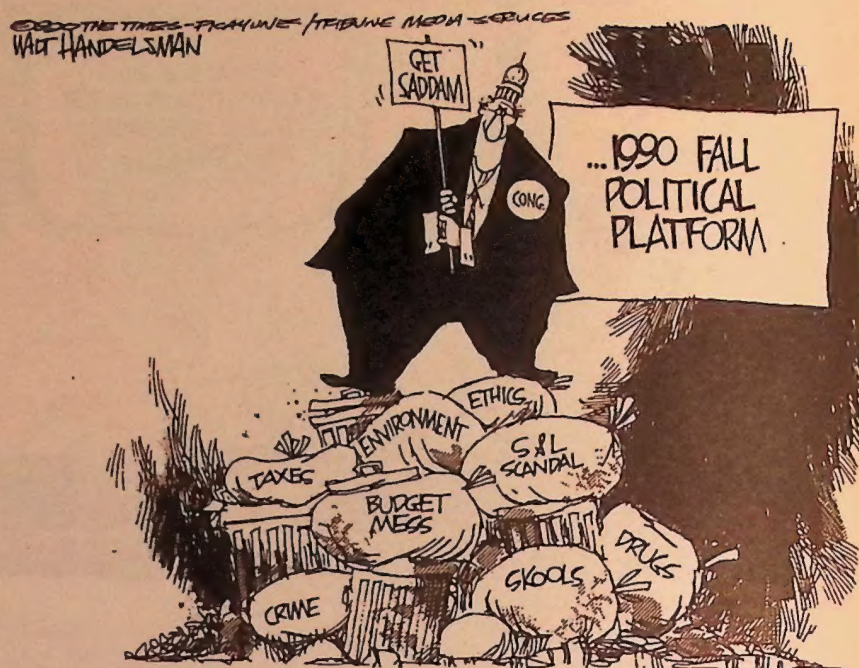
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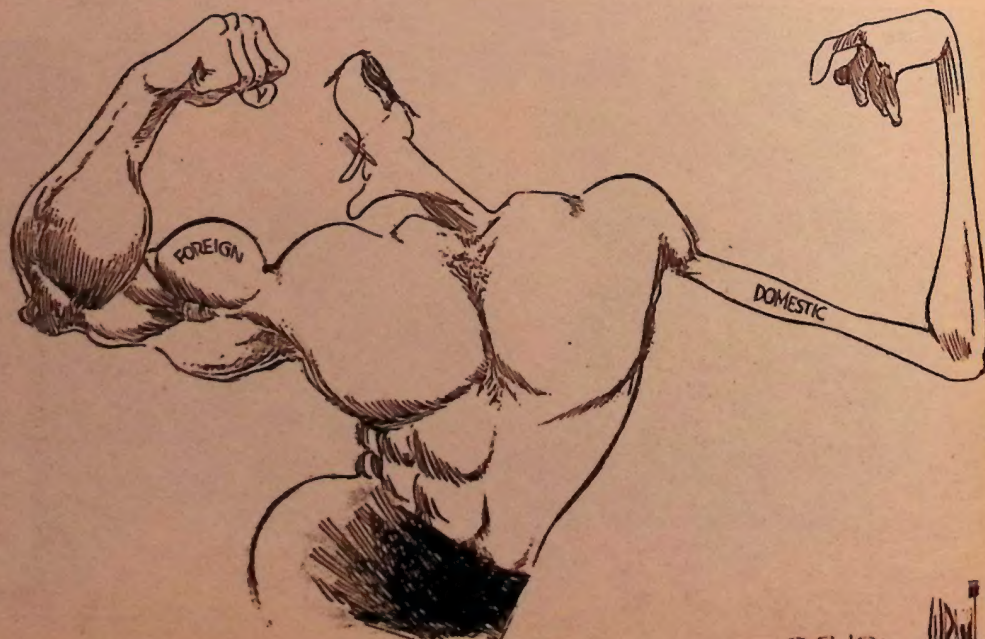
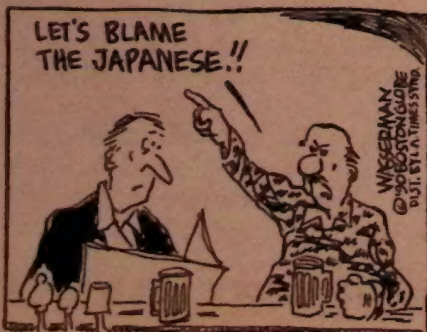
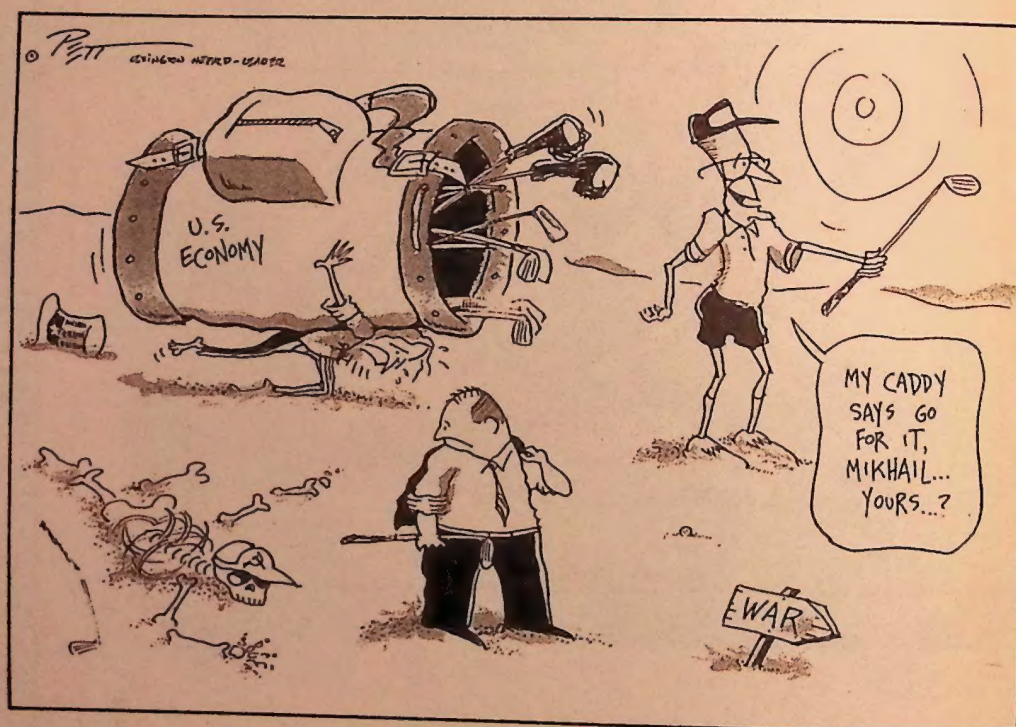
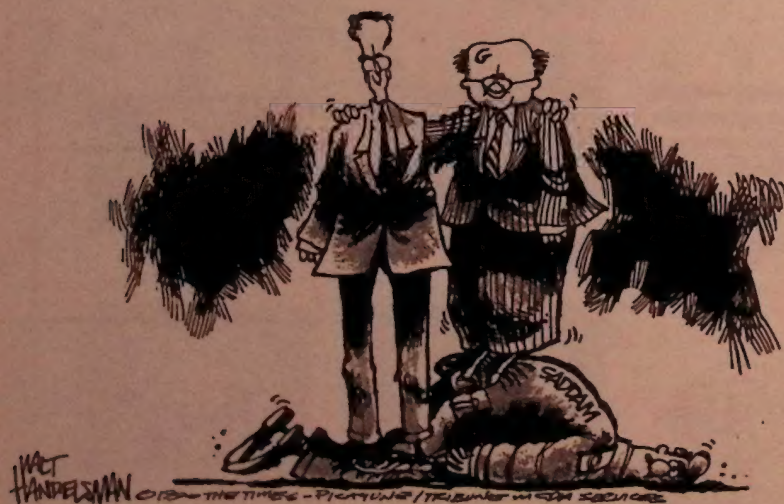


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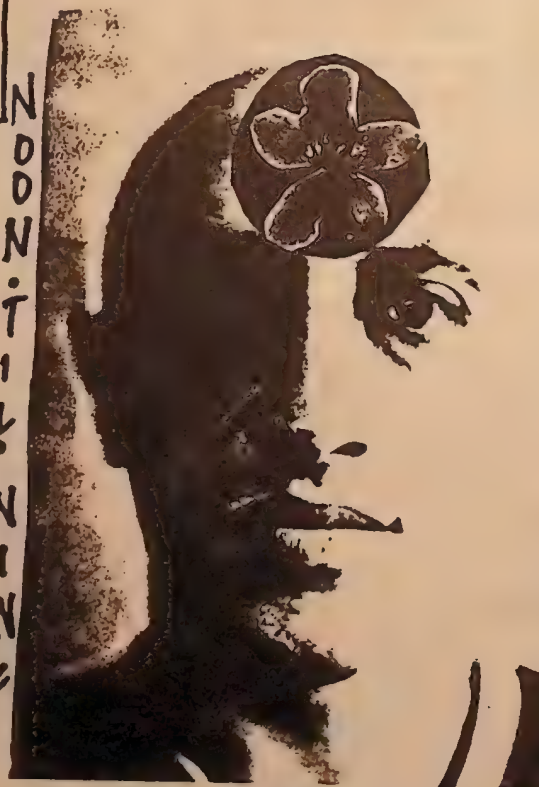
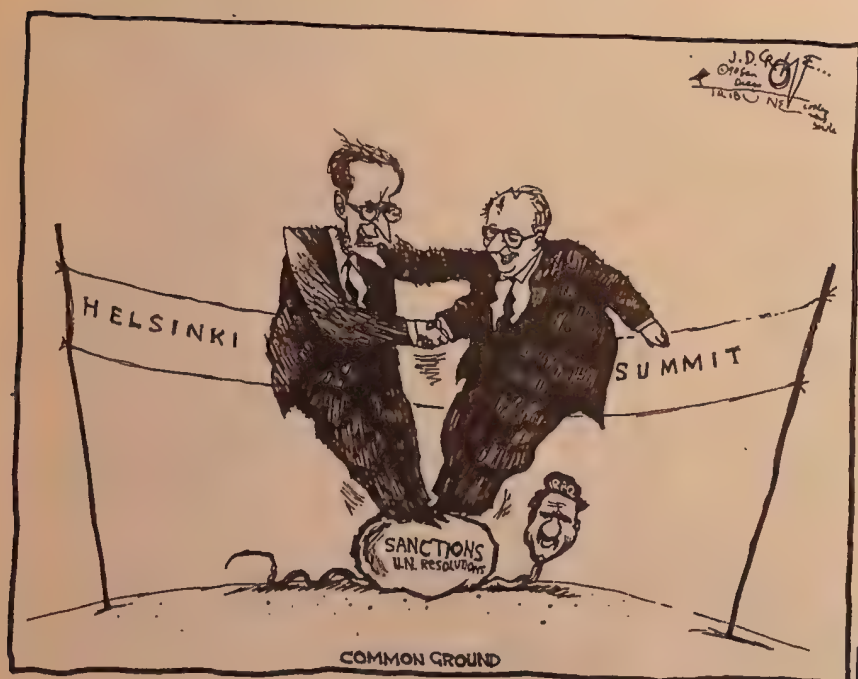
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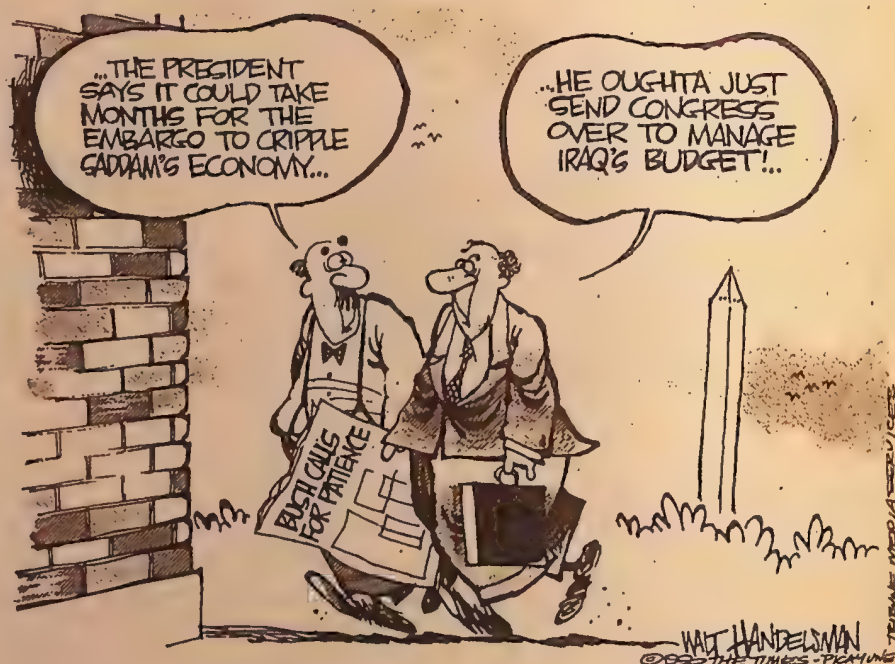
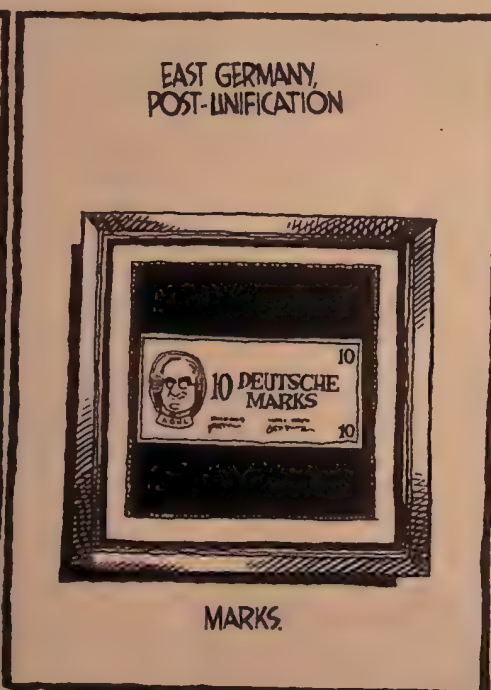
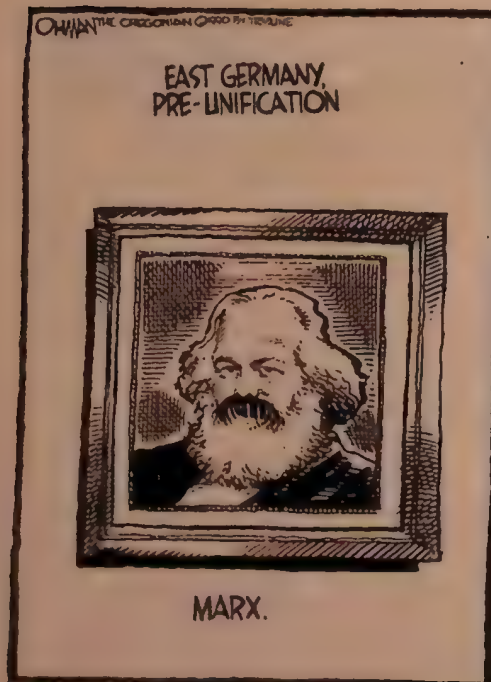
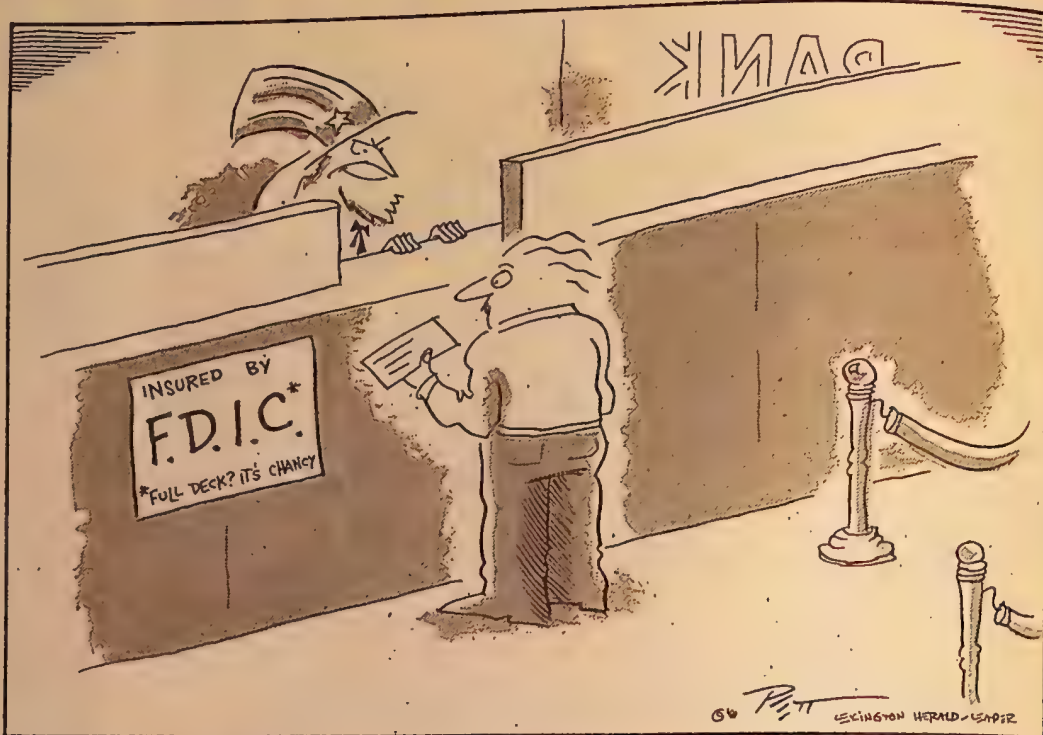
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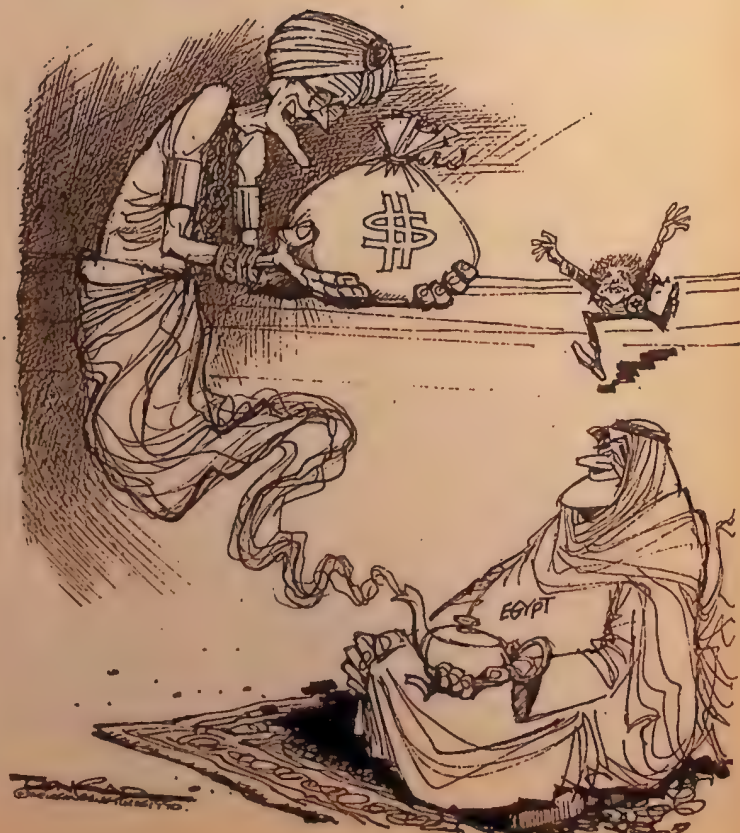
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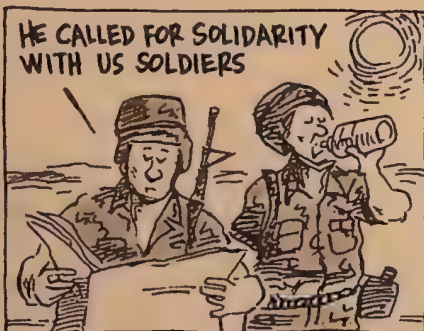
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"THAT'S GOOD...HANG IT RIGHT THERE!"



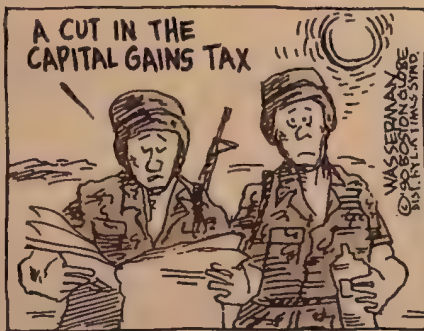
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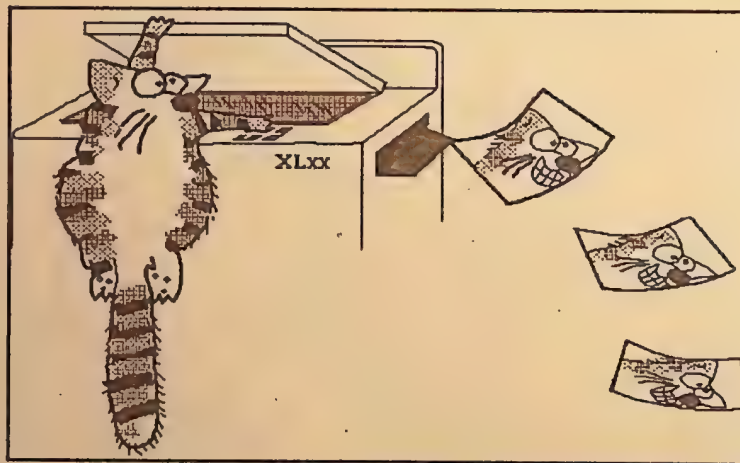
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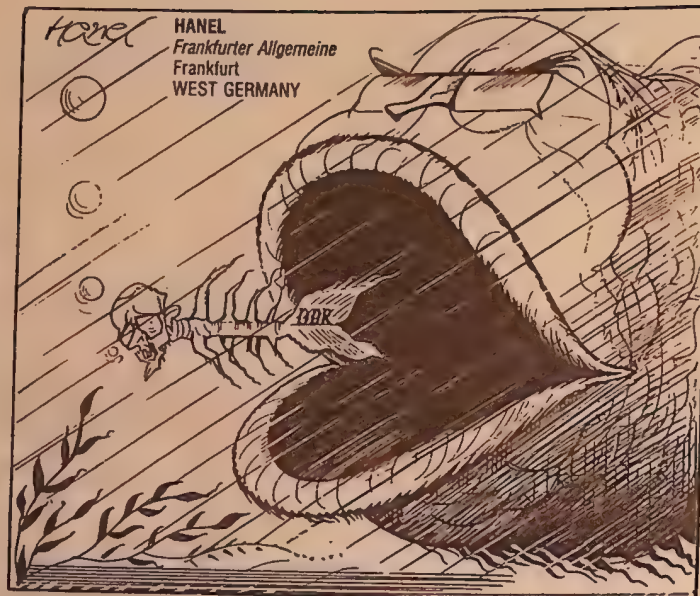
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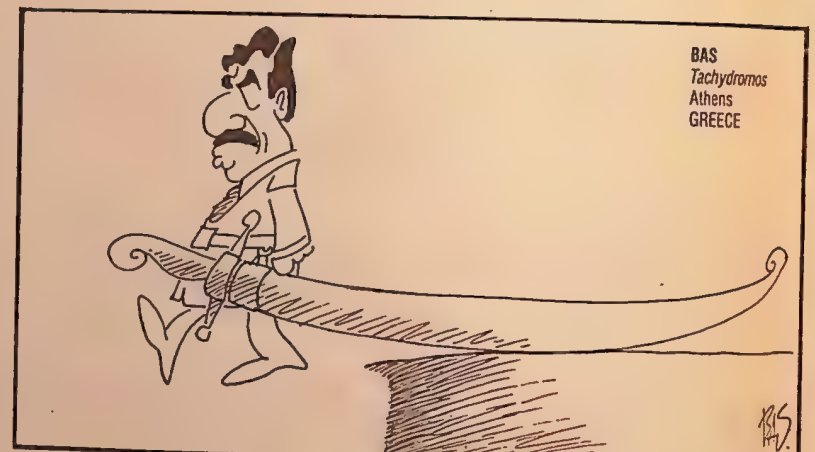
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GREECE

Oceanographers in 1962 sailed their observatory ship to a point south of Japan, there better to view the predicted eruption of Myojin, an undersea volcano that had been vibrating ominously. It blew. Exactly below them. Nothing of them was ever found except pieces of splintered wood.

Politicians didn't build that reputation overnight. All the way back in 600 B.C., Aesop said, "We hang the petty thieves, but appoint the great ones to public office."

No evidence indicates humans in general have ever lived as loners. Individuals, surely. But the mass of men and women always have paired off in perennial partnerships akin to marriage. Scholars say this pattern of centuries suggests aloneness is one of the most intolerable of conditions among humans. Highly likely you knew that.

In conversations, women stand closer to women than men to men.

The Aztecs figured out an interesting system to cut their school dropout rate. No man could marry until he'd graduated. Even then, he had to get permission from his former schoolmaster.

Soldiers told not to a of their hos Traditional obligated to th sions to th Fahd: Mig you've got

FUN FAC

In June of 1956, crewmen of the cargo steamer "Rhapsody," chugging along off the coast of Nova Scotia, saw "a white turtle" about 45 feet long, according to that ship's log. Some turtle. But research then revealed an even bigger one had been reported thereabouts in 1883.

A sports statistician insists more than 100 golfers daily make holes in one. Sounds pretty high to somebody who's never made one.

Pandas perceive color. And they hate red. If it's red and small, they'll attack it. If it's red and large, they'll run from it.

Q. Where speechwrit about "a t light"?

A. From the Wolfe.

Q. Do ha anything in c

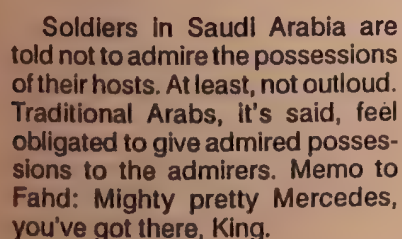
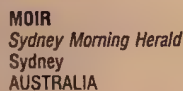
A. Four m searchers h "cooperativ "cautious" stable."

One persc eats with a k Two in seven in seven, fing

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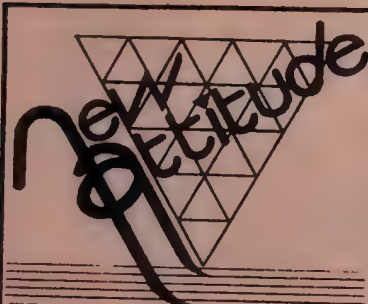
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EARTHWEEK: A DIARY OF THE PLANET

By Steve Newman


Toxic Cloud

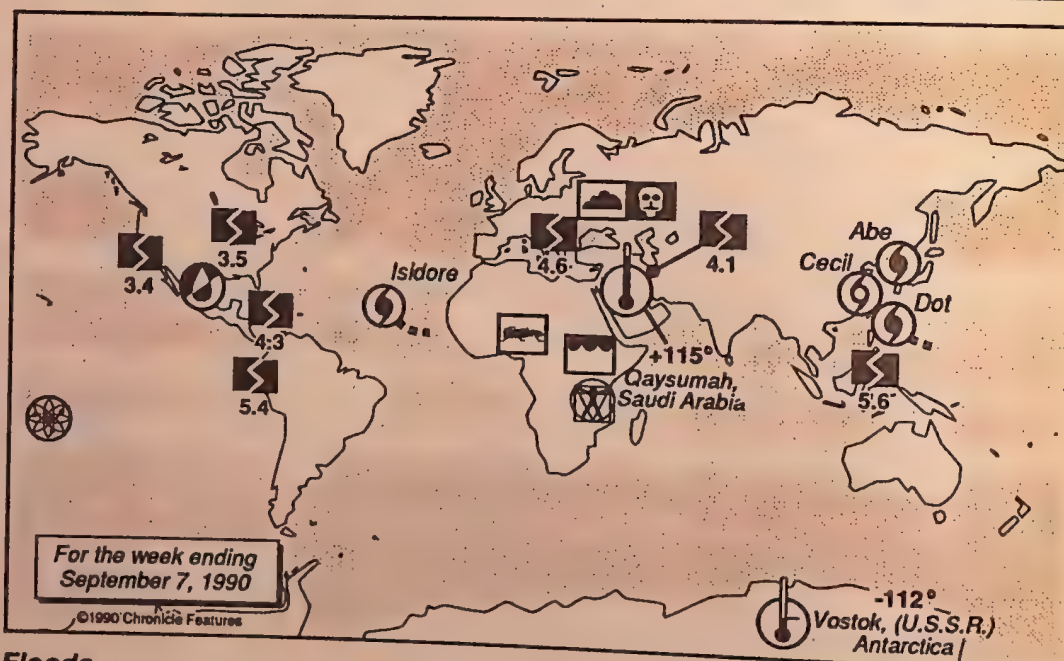
 A poisonous cloud, containing toxic chemicals, hovered over the Soviet city of Ufa after an explosion and fire ripped through a chemical plant. All medical centers in the area were placed on alert, and residents were warned to remain indoors until the cloud had passed. A stream of chemicals from the facility also poured into the nearby Olmka river that provides more than half of Ufa's drinking water. The day after the explosion, levels of phenol, a potentially lethal chemical that paralyzes the central nervous system, were discovered to be 37 times higher in the river than the acceptable limit.

Black Death


 A health alert was declared in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi following an outbreak of bubonic plague which killed three people from a low-income neighborhood, and sickened 23 others. The three victims worked at a flour mill that has been closed temporarily as a precaution against the further spread of the disease. Also known as the Black Death, bubonic plague killed millions when it swept across Europe and parts of Asia in the 14th century. It is transmitted by flies from infected rats, and is treatable with antibiotics.

Tropical Storms


 High winds and flooding from typhoon Abe killed 108 people as it swept across Taiwan and the Chinese mainland. The storm later brought gales and heavy rains to the Korean peninsula. Tropical storm Cecil formed suddenly before moving ashore close to where typhoon Abe had brought its worst fury only six days earlier. Typhoon storm Dot was taking aim on Taiwan late in the week. Hurricane Isidore moved harmlessly across the open waters of the central Atlantic Ocean.




Floods

 More than 350,000 people were left without shelter in western Ethiopia after storms and flooding swept away their primitive homes near the Sudanese border. This is the third consecutive year that the Gambela region along the Baro River has been hit by such a disaster. In contrast, northern Ethiopia remains in the grip of an extended drought that has brought on a new round of famine.


Earthquakes

 Further aftershocks of the disastrous June 21 Iranian earthquake rocked the region. Residents of southeastern Cuba, including the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, were shaken awake by a strong tremor before dawn on Sept. 5. Earth movements were also felt in the southern Philippines, central Ecuador, western Yugoslavia, Southern California and Tennessee.


Pests

 Millions of invading grasshoppers and army worms have destroyed staple crops in northern Nigeria's Katsina state. Aerial and ground spraying of pesticides has started in an effort to eradicate the pests.

Drought


 A second year of drought is rapidly depleting reservoirs and aquifers in the northern Mexican state of Nuevo Leon. Homes in the state capital of Monterrey now only get eight hours of running water a day.

Leaks

 An article published in the British journal New Scientists challenges repeated claims by the French Government that debris from its nuclear tests at Mururoa Atoll do not leak into the ocean. According to the report, tests conducted by the oceanographer

Jacques Cousseau in 1987 found the atoll's lagoon to be contaminated with cesium 134 and cesium 137.

Poltergeist

 Tass reported a sober tale of terrifying telekinesis in the Volga region village of Madayev. For seven hours, objects like keys, candles and food swirled through the air inside a house, striking family members and others who came to witness the phenomenon. "Revolted onlookers waved away the unseen ghost that visited the house," said Tass. "Ten men were on duty in the house during these long and tense hours, ready to take some measures in case the stove surged aloft." Militia Lieutenant Sbitnev, who said he witnessed the haunting, reported the details to Soviet Interior Ministry officials in Gorky.

Additional Sources: U. S. Climate Analysis Center, U. S. National Hurricane Center at Miami, U. S. Military Typhoon Warning Center at Guam, U. S. Earthquake Information Center and the World Meteorological Organization.

Record Rains

The heaviest 24-hour rainfall to strike the Korean peninsula in 70 years unleashed waves of flooding that killed at least 84 people and left 52 missing. The figures did not reflect casualties from an area west of Seoul where a 110-yard section of the Han River embankment collapsed before dawn on Sept. 12. More than 80 villages disappeared under the resulting surge of water. Korean Television reported that a Buddhist temple was buried in a mudslide with five monks inside. South Korean President Roh Tae Woo called it "the worst weather disaster in memory."

Drought Refugees

Shortages of food and rain in central Sudan have driven an estimated 10,000 people to Khartoum, the capital. Most of the refugees came from northern Kordofan, an area affected by a similar catastrophe in 1984-85. The government announced it was transporting 111,000 tons of sorghum to northern Kordofan to avert another influx of people to the capital, but denied that the country was threatened by famine.

Deeper

The second phase of a project to drill the world's deepest hole got underway near Windischeschenbach, West Germany. The \$330 million program is financed by a number of countries, including the U.S., France, West Germany and Czechoslovakia. More than 200 geologists will study samples as the drilling bores to a depth of 33,000 feet during the next three years. The first phase brought the drill to a point 13,000 feet beneath Europe where the continental plates of Africa, Asia and America joined more than 300 million years ago. One goal of the project is to explore the potential of underground thermal energy.



Tropical Storms

Strong winds and flooding from Typhoon Dot left 23 people dead along a path of destruction across the northern Philippines, Taiwan and China's Fujian province. The storm was the fourth to hit the region within three weeks, and tropical storm Ed was taking a similar path late in the week.

Residents of Hawaii were keeping a cautious eye on hurricane Marie, moving toward them across the Pacific with winds of 100 miles per hour.

Hurricane Isidore and tropical storm Norbert moved across open waters.

Giant Gem

Burma's Radio Rangoon reported the discovery of the world's largest sapphire, 979 carats, at a mine near Mong Kyawt. Until the discovery, the 563-carat "Star of India" had been the largest sapphire ever mined.

Earthquakes

A moderate quake rattled the Mexican resort of Acapulco, scaring tourists and panicking a group of schoolchildren, but no damage or injuries were caused by the shaking. Several tremors were felt near where the devastating Loma Prieta earthquake rocked the San Francisco Bay Area on October 17 last year. A weak earth movement was felt in north-eastern Kentucky.

Seal Slaughter

The South African government denied claims made by the country's Seal Action Group that 17,000 seals recently had been culled off the Skeleton Coast in Namibia. Sea Fisheries director Jan Jurgens said that only 256 seals had been killed during the five days ending Sept. 11, but said that a quota of 19,400 seals had been granted for commercial harvesting this year. In July, a storm of

protest in South Africa, backed by French actress Brigitte Bardot, resulted in the suspension of the seal culls off the Cape of Good Hope.

Tree Talk

Some plant species can communicate with one another, and even warn of attackers, a South African zoologist claimed at the International Colloquium on the Tree in Montpellier, France. Wouter van Hoven said he discovered that an acacia tree releases ethylene to warn other plants that it is being munching on. "This message can be carried for 50 yards," van Hoven said. "In less than 15 minutes, a neighboring tree will increase the concentration of tannin in its leaves, which thereby makes it poisonous."

Additional Sources: U.S. National Hurricane Center at Miami, U.S. Military Joint Typhoon Warning Center at Guam, U.S. Climate Analysis Center, U.S. Earthquake Information Center and the World Meteorological Organization.



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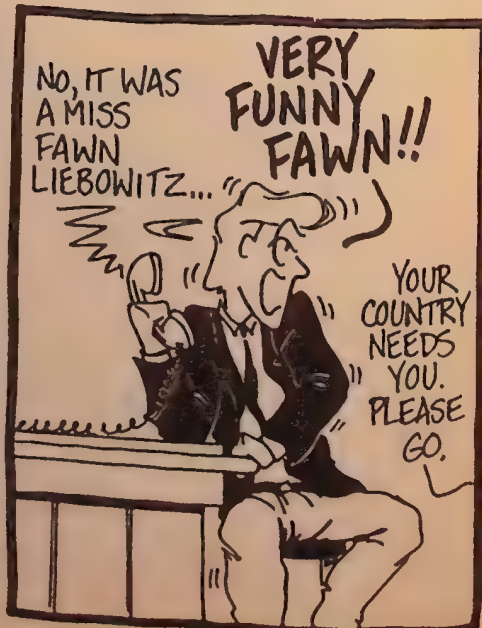
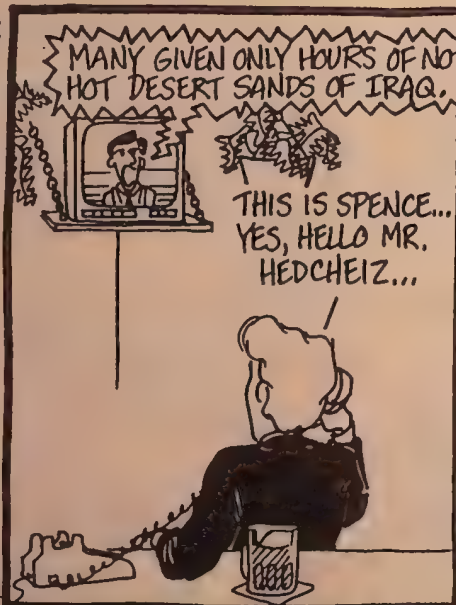
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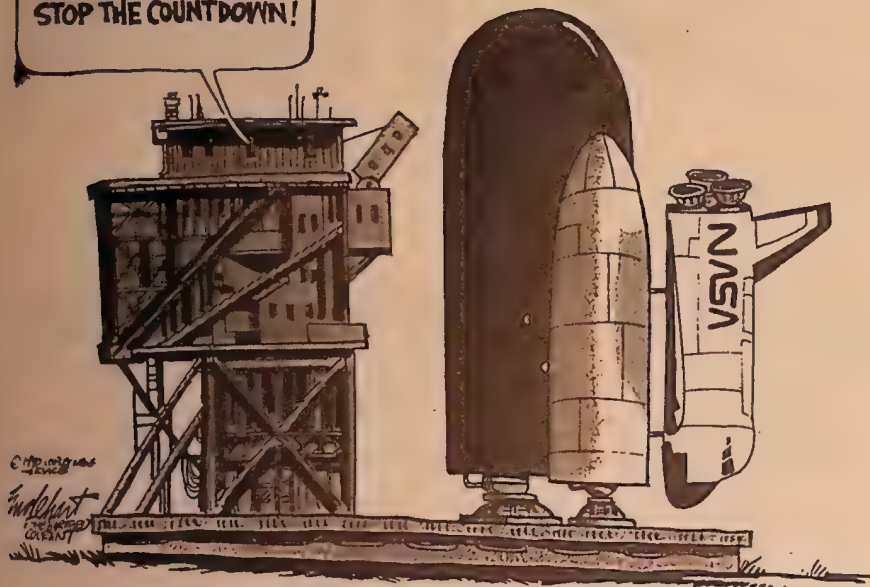
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THE BRASS & FERN



SPACED

FIVE...FOUR...THREE...
HOLD IT! HOLD IT!...
STOP THE COUNTDOWN!



Cartoonist
Name
Date

VAN NOSTRUM THE HAPLESS EXCHANGE STUDENT

AFTER A GRUELING EVENING
STUDYING MEGADODECAHEDRONS
VAN NOSTRUM GETS HUNGRY.



TWO STOMACH SCREECHING
HOURS LATER - THE DELIVERY
GUY ARRIVES...



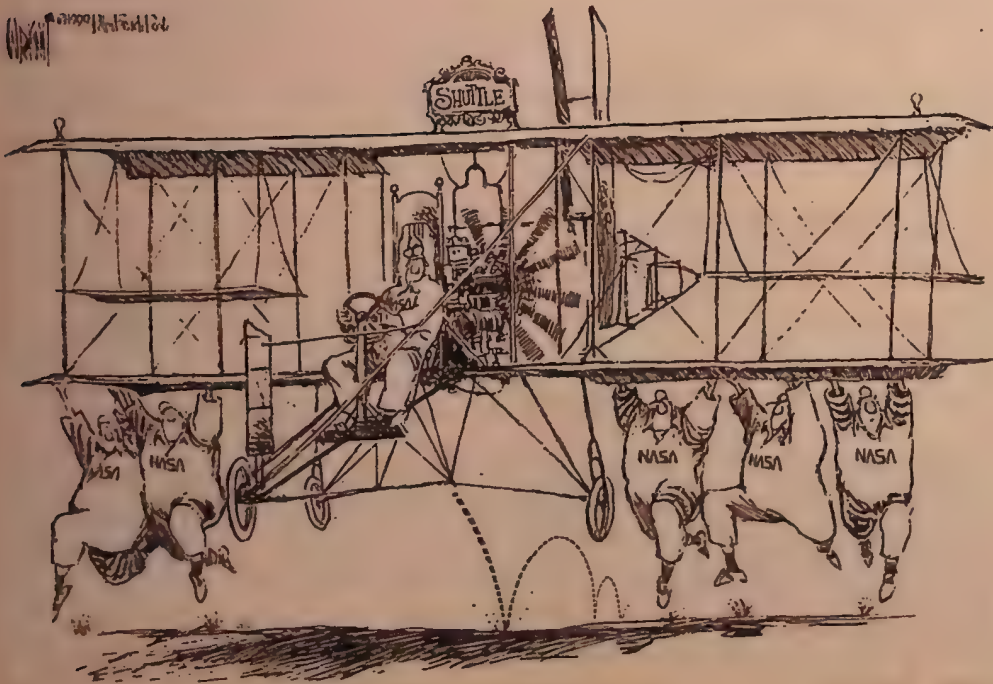
OH NOOO! IT'S EITHER
EAT THIS MESS OR...

A SHORT WALK OR DRIVE TO THE
CENTER OF TOWN AT 50 MAIN ST.



Cartoonist
Name
Date

WHY YES, AS
A MATTER OF FACT
I AM A NASA
SHUTTLE LAUNCH
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YOU GUESS?



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New Music Matrix11:00 pm to midnight, Mondays.
A cutting-edge sampling of the week's new releases.

Homegrown11:00 pm to Midnight, Tuesdays.
Johnny Memphis hosts an hour of Pioneer Valley music! Special live sets, plus the latest cassette releases from area artists!

Stepping Out5:00 & 7:00 pm, Wed. - Sat.
Entertainment listings for the Valley.

Ask the Professor7:00 pm, Wednesdays.
A witty, rollicking radio trivia quiz.

Retrospective 11:00 pm to Midnight, Wednesdays.
An incisive hour of music from a featured artist.

New L.P. of the Week11:00 pm, Thursdays.
An important new release played in it's entirety.

Roadhouse7:00 pm - 8:00 pm, Fridays.
Blues, Soul, R&B... Saturday night party music!

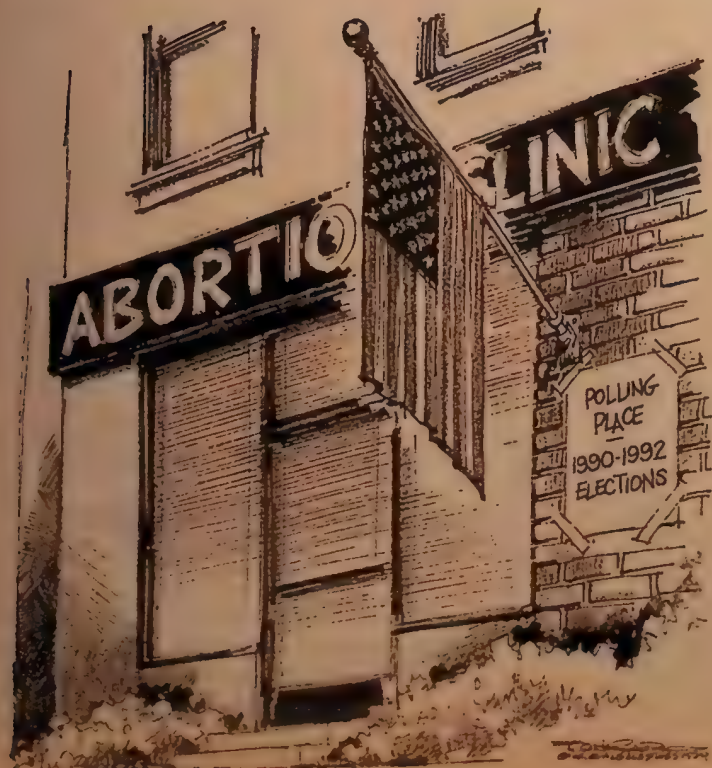
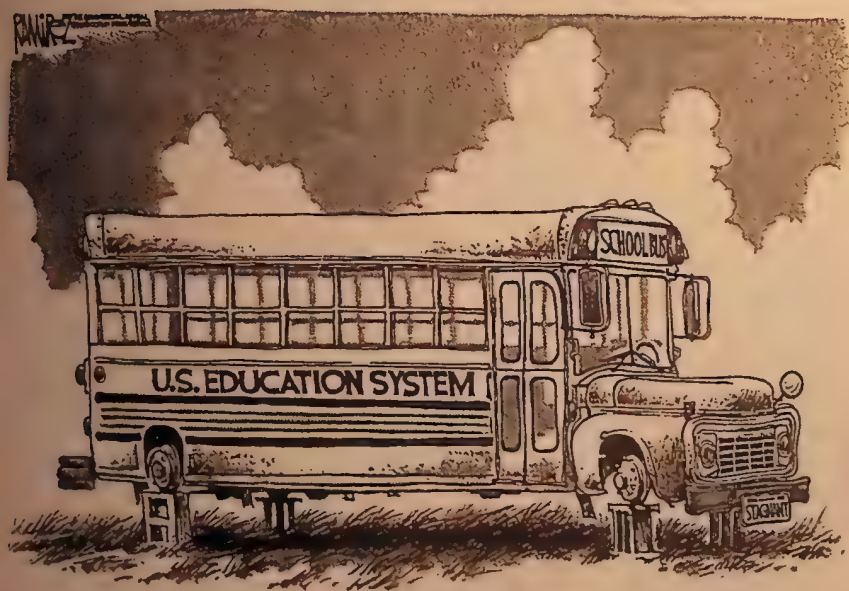
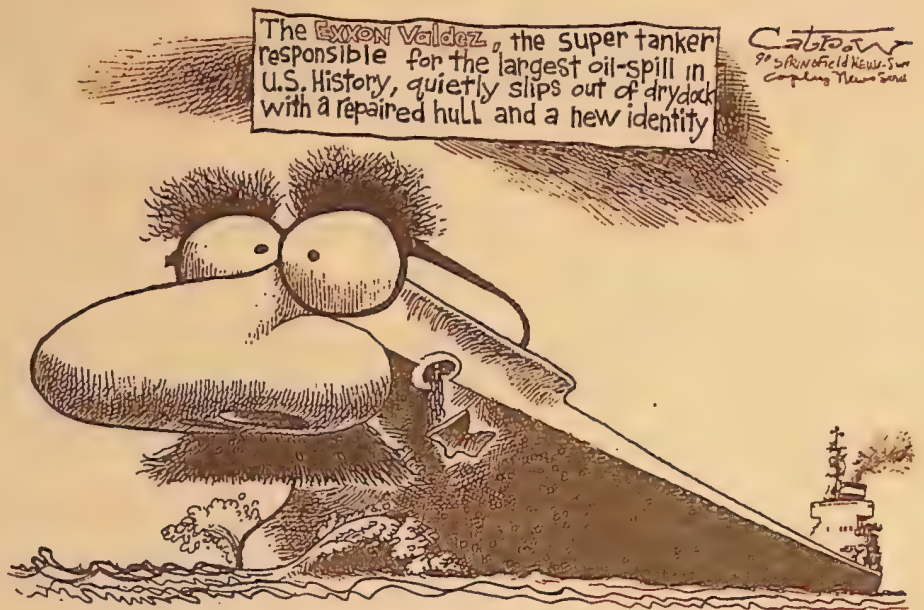
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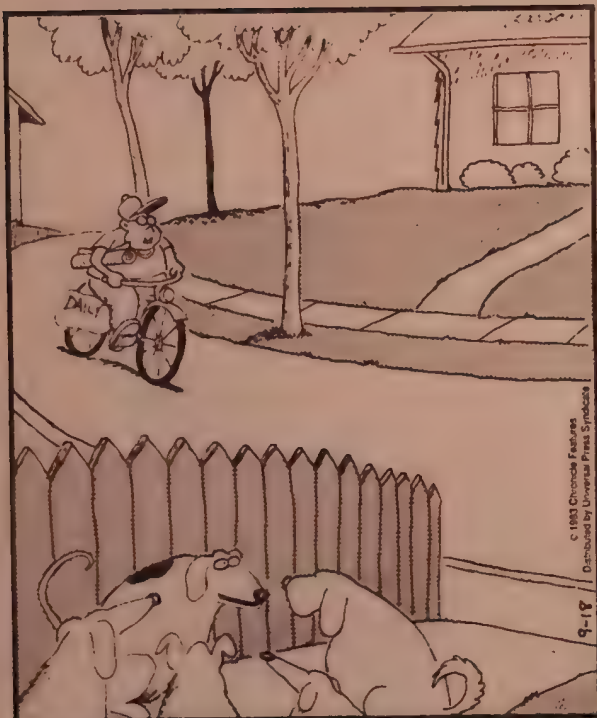
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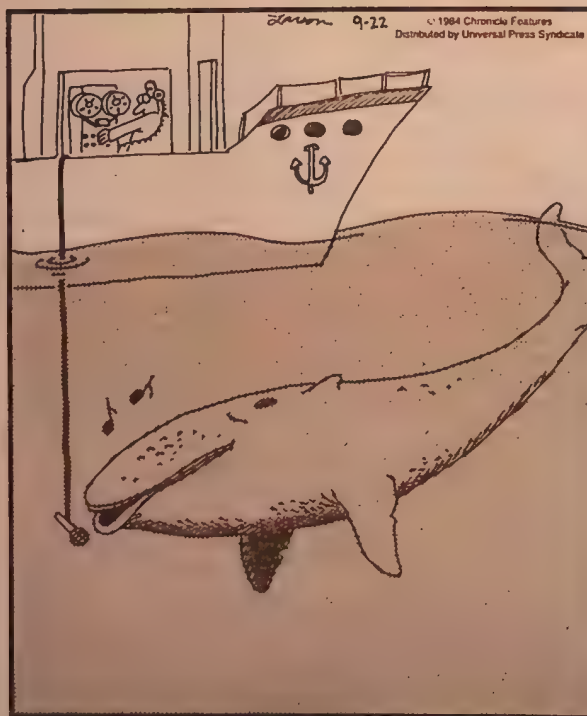


THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"OK, this time Rex and Zeke will be the wolves, Fifi and Muffin will be the coyotes, and ... Listen! ... Here comes the deer!"



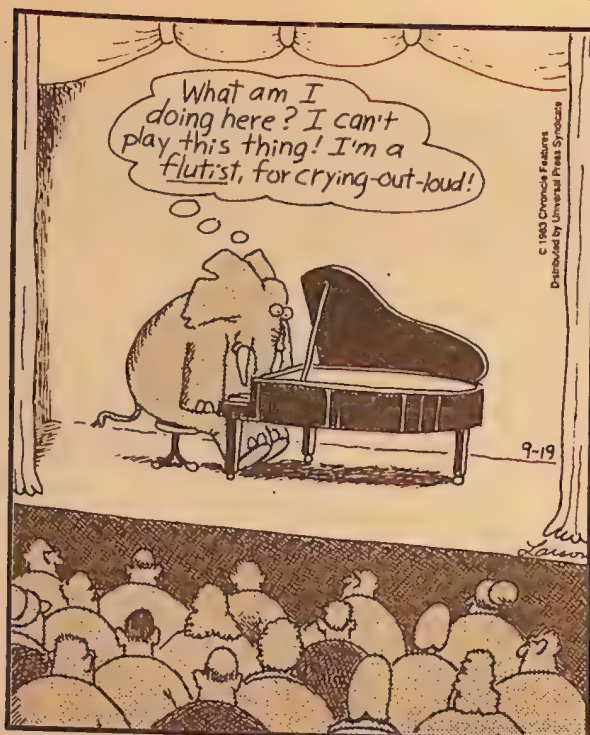
"A Louie, Louie ... wowooo ... we gotta go now ..."



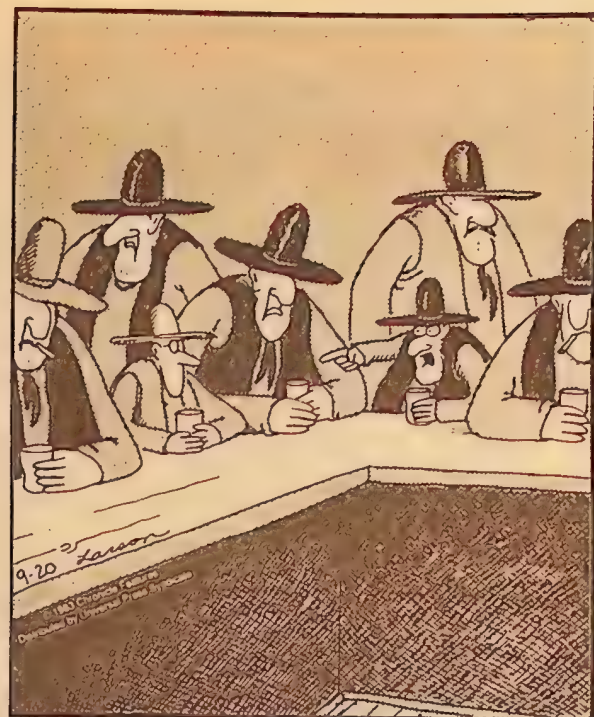
"That time was just too close, George! Jimmy was headed straight for the snake pit when I grabbed him!"



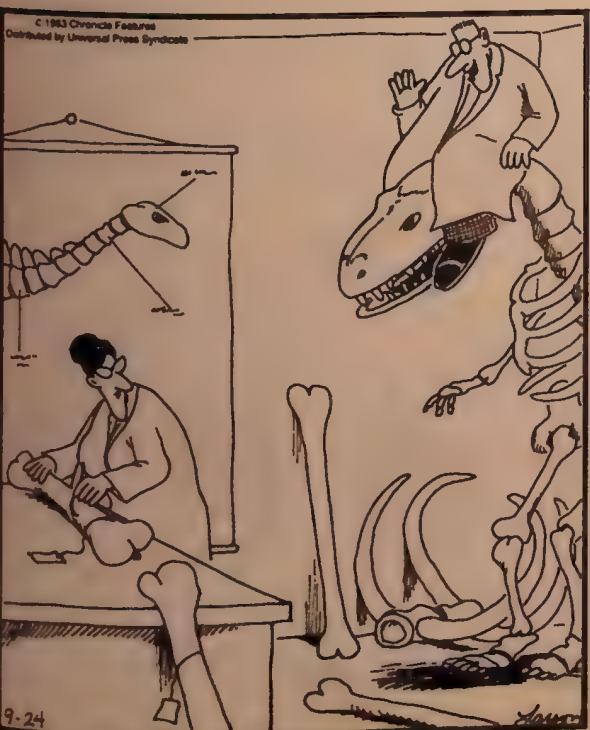
Early vegetarians returning from the kill.



The elephant's nightmare



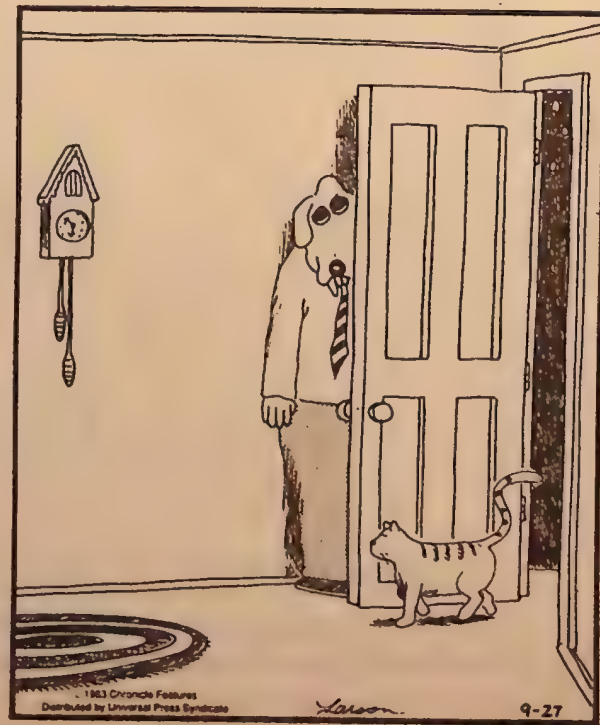
"Hey! You! . . . Yeah, that's right! I'm talkin' to you!"



"Hi . . . Hi, Miss Collins."



"Oh no, Elliott! Why? . . . Why? . . ."



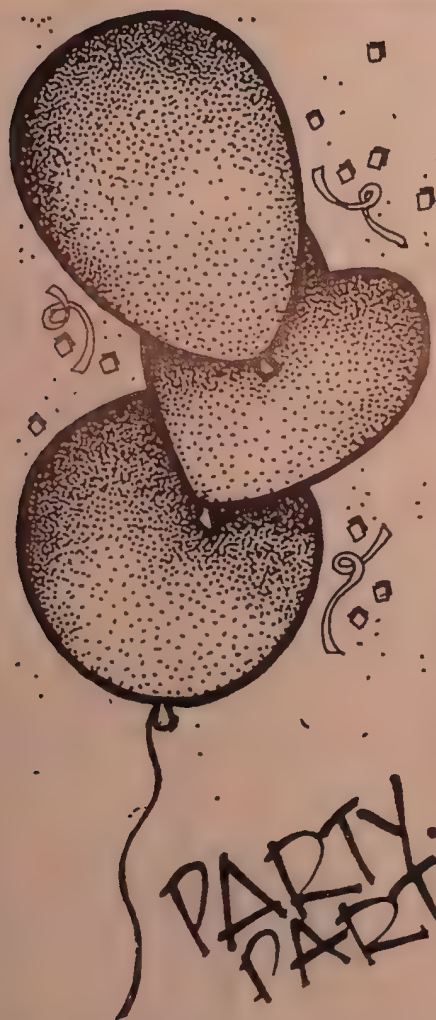
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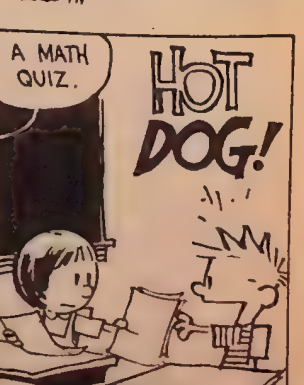
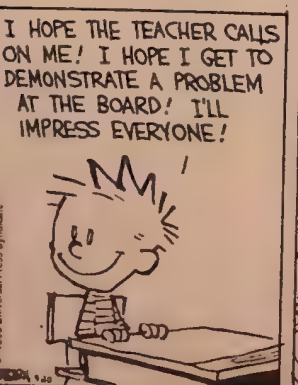
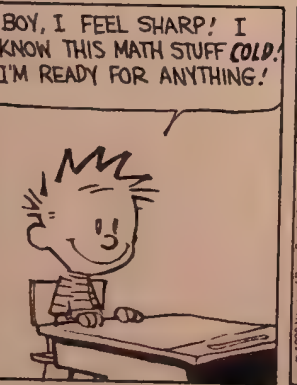
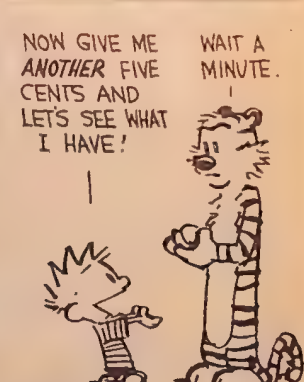
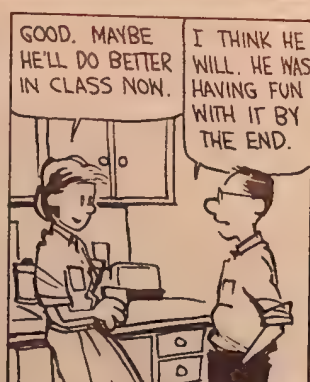
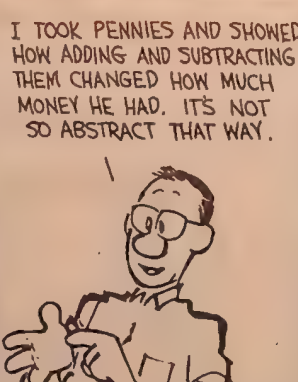
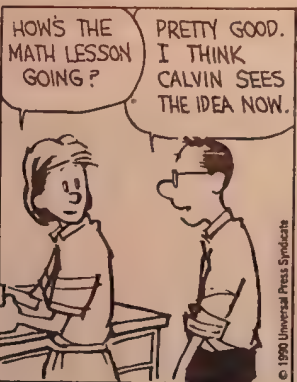
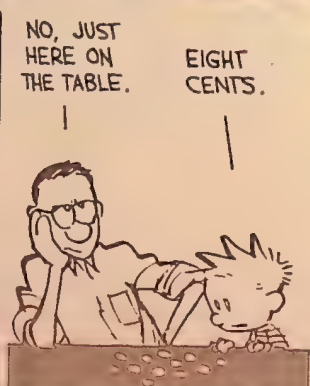
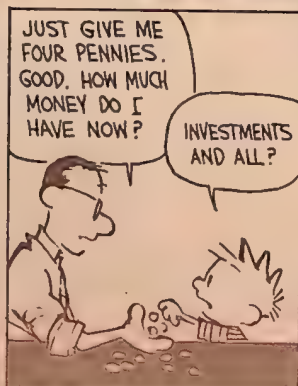
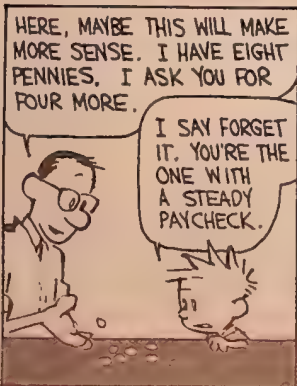
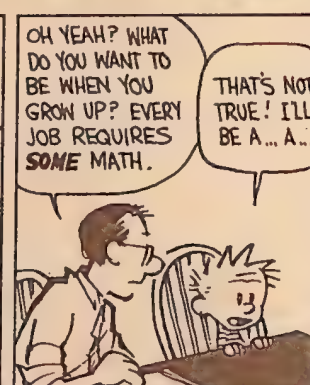
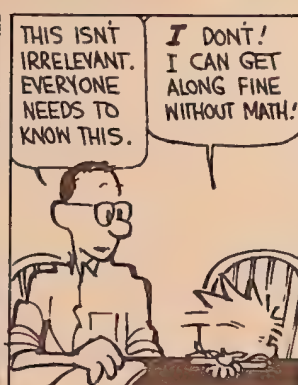
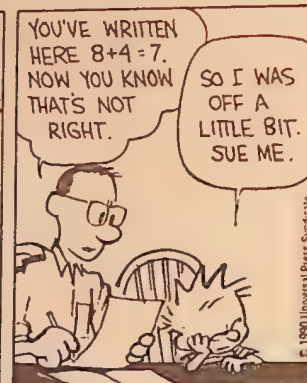
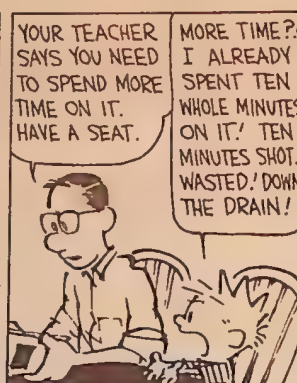
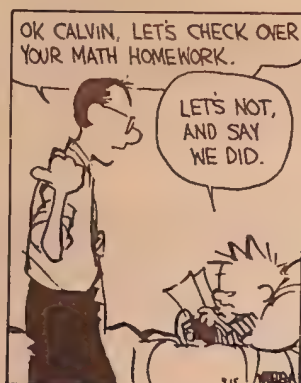


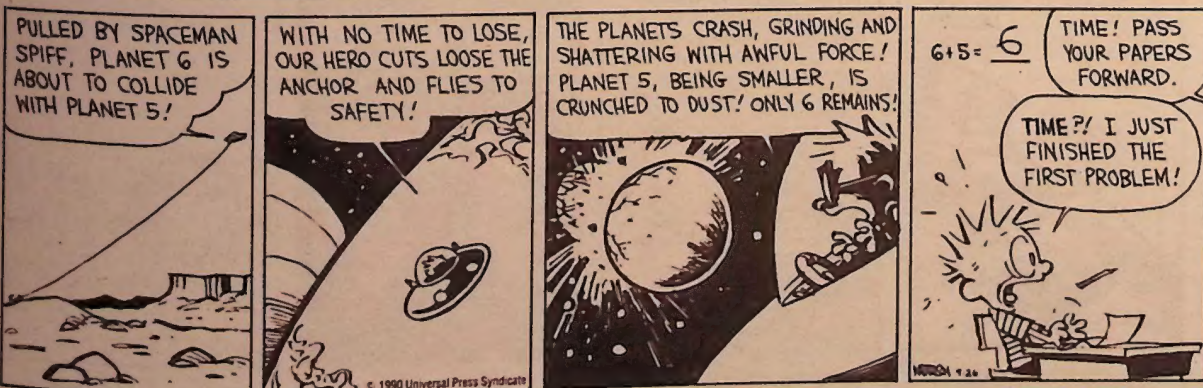
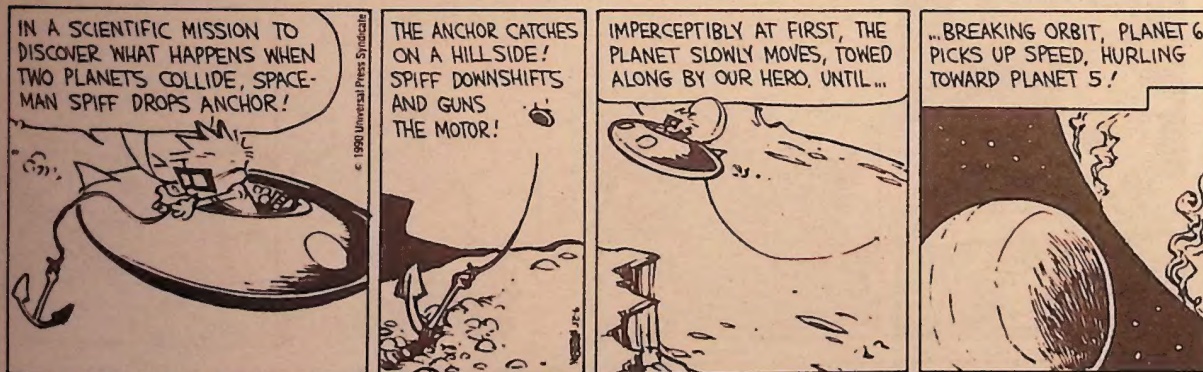
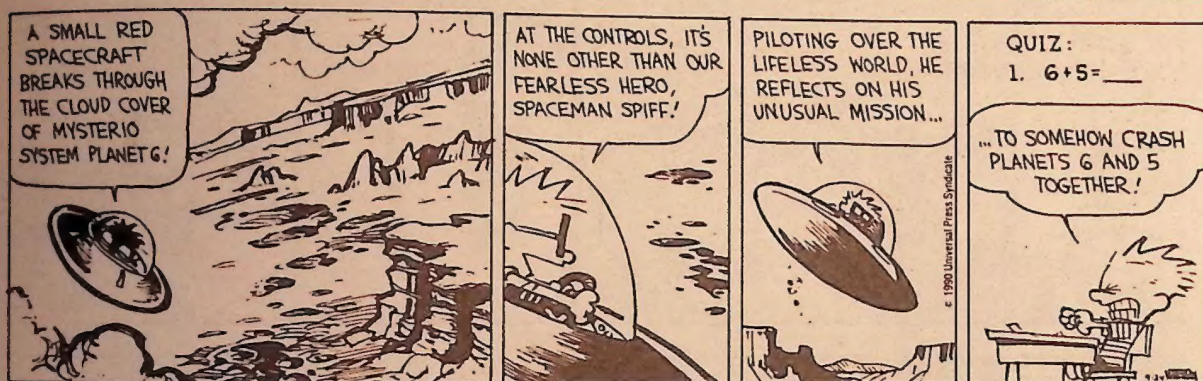
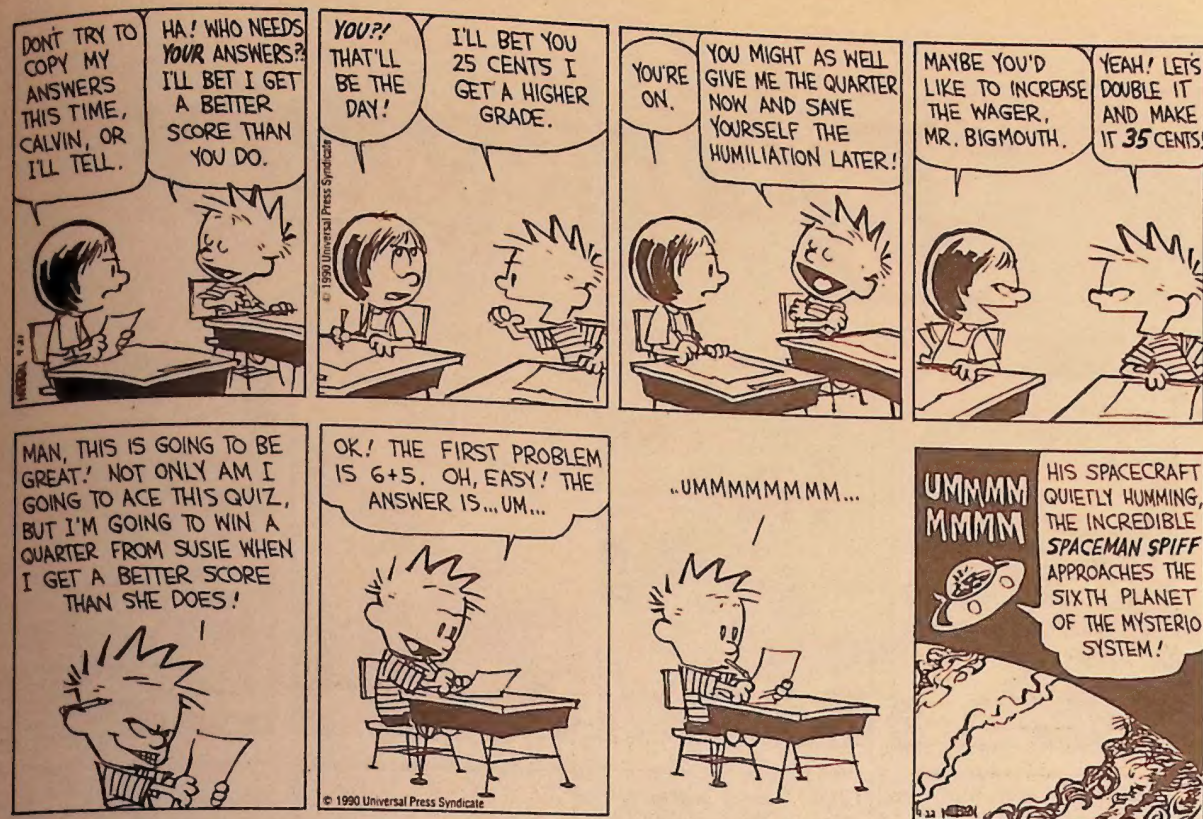
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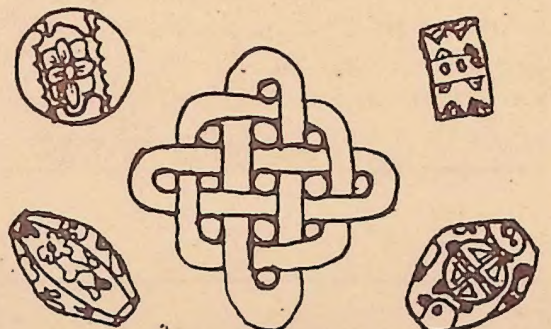


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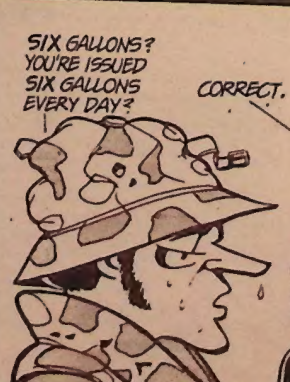
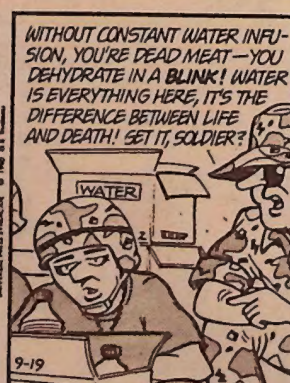
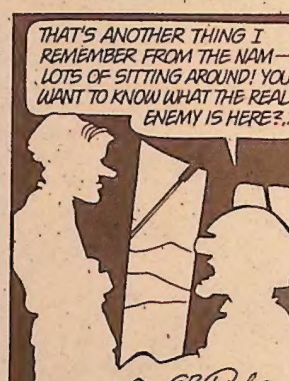
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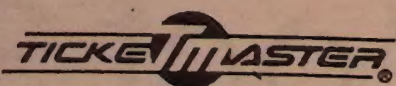
Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU



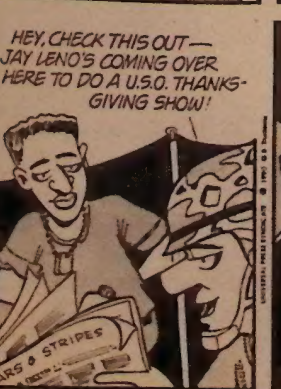
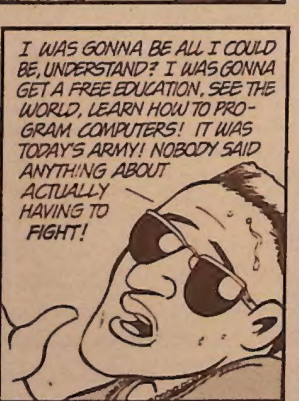
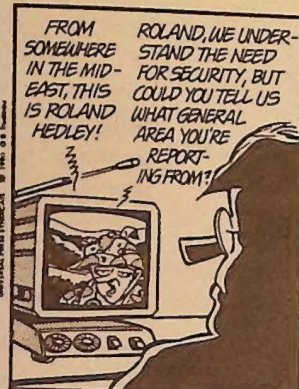
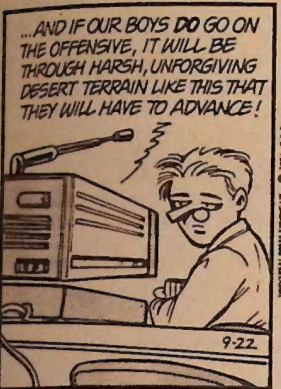
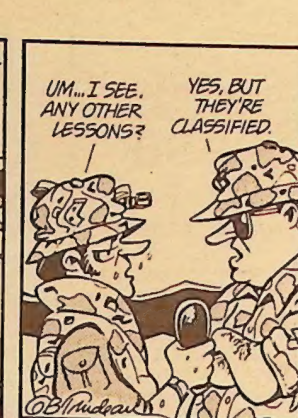
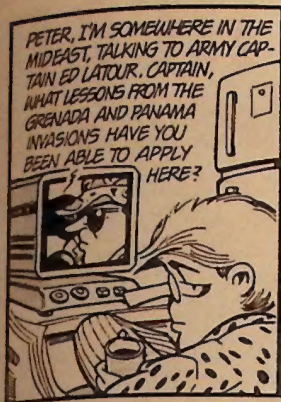
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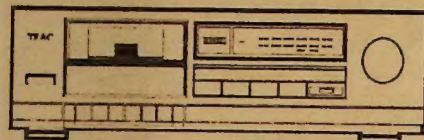
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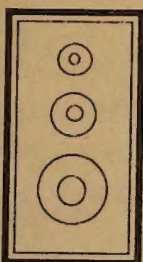
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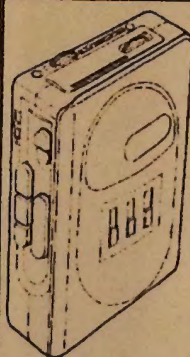
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Superflex - 12/2
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Amplified
Speakers

for your portable
CD player
or walkman

only \$99⁹⁵/PR

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ideal for
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classes and
lectures!

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micro cassettes



your choice

only \$34.95



PICKERING CD-6

Digital Ready
Headphones

SAVE 50%

list \$79⁹⁵

only \$39⁹⁵



TOSHIBA

KT-4018

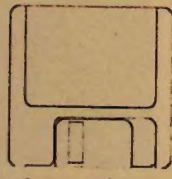
AM/FM Cassette Walkman



only \$29⁹⁵

IBM

1.44MB Disks



box of 10

only \$14⁹⁵

PARSEC

INDOOR FM ANTENNA



only \$29⁹⁵

Trade-Ins Welcome
limited quantities
all sales final
no refunds or returns
all items subject to prior sale
sale prices for in-stock items
sale ends 10-10-90

adirondack music

15 East Pleasant St., Amherst 253-3100

OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY, 10AM TO 5PM

we accept



MAN LOSES HEAD

LOCAL BUSINESSMAN GOES BEZERK

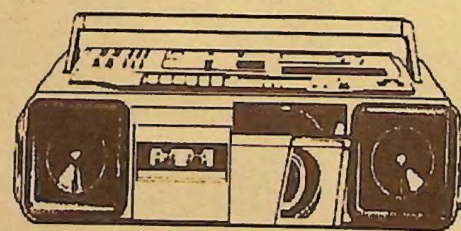
By LOWON BRED

A.M.I. Advertising Department

AMHERST -- It has been reported by a totally unreliable source that the owner of Adirondack Music, located in downtown Amherst, was seen grabbing innocent passers-by off the sidewalk into the store, yelling at them, "Boy, have I got a deal for you!". Several of these victims were later observed leaving the premises with packages of stereo equipment, dazed and shaken, but with a seemingly peculiar, pleased look on their faces.

We asked a young woman, a Miss Vera Poor, what had happened. She exclaimed, "At first I thought he was a madman! He was acting like a raving lunatic. When he offered me a Pierre Cardin cordless phone for only \$49⁹⁵, I thought he must have tripped on his shoe laces and knocked himself senseless on the brick floor in there. But he wasn't kidding! I've always wanted one, and at that price, how could I resist? He only had a couple of them, so I snapped one up right away! I also got a 25 foot headset extension for my other phone for only 99¢ out of a big box marked Telephone Stuff - only 99¢. It had lots of telephone connectors, cables and things in it."

"That guy's nuts!", insisted M. T. Wallit, a local college student. "I don't know what he's on, but I sure'd like to have some. He practically begged me to buy this great Toshiba RT-8069 CD boom box. I had looked at a couple of CD boxes elsewhere, but couldn't afford them. At first he wanted



He looked at me as if I was the man from Mars

\$270 for it, said I was crazy if I didn't buy it for that price, and laughed hysterically. Man what a loon. I told him that heotta see a shrink. He looked at me as if I was the man from Mars. When I started to walk out, he started yelling out lower prices, "\$249⁹⁵", "\$229⁹⁵", "\$219⁹⁵". Just as I had opened the door he yelled, "Ok, \$199⁹⁵", not a penny less!" Now that was a deal I just couldn't pass up! It's a great machine, AM/FM cassette and programmable CD player!"

Even out on the sidewalk, through the closed door, we could hear him yelling at one of his customers, "Such a deal I got for you, maxell XLII-90 hi-bias tape, only \$1⁹⁹. It's the best price your gonna find anywhere!"

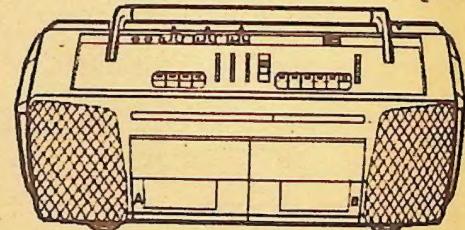
A respectable looking gentleman came out of the shop, who we at first mistook for a psychiatrist, until we notice the box under his arm. Prof. Noal Ott, as he introduced himself, explained, "It seems to have something to do with the general state of the economy. When the DOW plunges, retailers seem to think that they have to drastically reduce their prices to induce consumers to purchase. Like this Magnavox CDB-492 CD player I just



When the DOW plunges retailers... drastically reduce their prices

bought. A friend of mine purchased one here a few months ago for \$200, yet, I was able to take advantage of the apparent lunacy of the shopkeeper and purchase mine for only \$149⁹⁵. Quite a bargain."

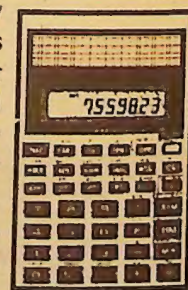
A minute later, an elderly woman came out with a boom box in hand. "Such a nice man", exclaimed Ghetta Decl. "He gave



me such a deal on this JVC RC-W210 portable stereo for my teenage grandson. It's even got two of those tape thingies. I looked around at others, but you know, the salesman at other store really didn't seem to know too much about the things he was selling. Only \$99⁹⁵! And look how sturdy it is."

Our curiosity overwhelmed us. We just had to see for ourselves if the man was really

bezerk. We cautiously entered the store and as soon as the door slammed shut behind us we were immediately confronted with, "How can you resist? A real, honest to goodness solar calculator, no batteries needed, ever, for the measly price of only \$1⁹⁹, and, it's pocket sized so you can slip it out when no one's looking..." How could I resist? I couldn't. I even bought a digital clock to put on my desk for only 99¢!



As we left, we could hear the man muttering to himself, seemed to be something about having to sell his Porsche just so he could feed his poor, starving wife and kid...